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December 22, 2003

Andrew C. von Eschenbach, M.D.
Director,
National Cancer Institute
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. von Eschenbach,

I invite you to testify before the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources on Wednesday, January 28, 2004 at 10 a.m. in 2154 Rayburn House Office Building regarding the status of federal efforts related to cervical cancer and human papillomavirus (HPV).

I invite you to present the currently available scientific knowledge and provide an overview of ongoing studies related to HPV and cervical cancer. The Subcommittee would be interested in learning about the status of HPV vaccine research, the development of new diagnostic technologies, the latest treatment options, the health consequences of HPV infection and the best strategies to prevent HPV infection.

Witnesses will be afforded an opportunity to testify for five minutes. Your written statement for the record may be of any length.

In accordance with Subcommittee procedure, please e-mail your testimony to Nicole.Garrett@mail.house.gov and provide one hundred (100) copies of your prepared statement by close of business Tuesday, January 27.

Thank you for your contribution to this important Congressional hearing. We look forward to your valuable insights. If you have any questions, please contact me or Roland Foster of my staff at (202) 225-2577.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark Souder". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "S".

Mark E. Souder

Chairman

Subcommittee on Criminal Justice,

Drug Policy and Human Resources